

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An endoscopic device configured to be loaded into a channel of an endoscope prior to insertion of the endoscope into a body, comprising:
an elongate member for insertion into the channel of the endoscope, wherein a length of the elongate member is greater than a length of the channel of the endoscope;
and

a distal assembly connected to a distal portion of the elongate member and operable to perform an endoscopic operation, wherein the distal assembly has an open configuration and a closed configuration, wherein a proximal end of the distal assembly has a profile larger than a diameter of the channel of the endoscope, and wherein the distal assembly is adapted to be exterior to the channel when the endoscope is inserted into the body,

wherein the distal assembly includes a tube and an end effector having a profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than a profile of a lumen of the tube so that at least a portion of the end effector fits within the lumen of the tube when in the closed configuration.

2. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the elongate member is operable to activate the distal assembly.

3. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the elongate member has a stop configured to limit movement of the elongate member.

4. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, further comprising a proximal handle connected to a proximal end of the elongate member, wherein the proximal handle is operable to activate the distal assembly.

5. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 4, wherein the proximal handle includes a casing, a slide slidably disposed in the casing and housing a proximal portion of the elongate member, and a cap connected to the proximal end of the elongate member.

6. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 5, wherein the slide has a knob slidably disposed in a groove of the casing, and wherein the knob is operable to move the slide to activate the distal assembly.

7. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, further comprising an attachment cup configured to secure the distal assembly to a distal end of the endoscope.

8. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein an activation shaft is operable to rotate the distal assembly.

9. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 8, wherein a distal end of the activation shaft is bent.

10. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the distal assembly is configured to obtain and store multiple tissue samples.

11. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the distal assembly further comprises a needle on the distal end of the elongate member and a hub on a proximal end of the elongate member, and wherein the hub and needle are operable to administer an injection.

12. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the distal end of the elongate member includes a needle point.

13. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the elongate member includes a lumen, and further comprising a medical device inserted into the lumen.

14. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, further comprising jaw members operable to open and close.

15. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 14, wherein the jaw members are attached to a ring and the ring is attached to the elongate member.

16. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 14, wherein the jaw members are normally open.

17. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, further comprising activation means for activating the distal assembly.

18. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 1, wherein the distal assembly includes a forceps device.

19. (Currently Amended) The endoscopic device of claim 18, the forceps device comprising a ring connected to the distal portion of the elongate member; ~~a tube housing the ring and the distal portion of the elongate member;~~ and jaw members attached to the ring that are operable to open and close, wherein the profile of the closed jaw members is smaller than a diameter of the tube, wherein the tube houses the ring and the distal portion of the elongate member.

20. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 19, further comprising a spring housed within the tube.

21. (Original) The endoscopic device of claim 20, wherein the spring exerts a force to open the jaw members.

22. (Currently Amended) A medical device; comprising:

an endoscope with a channel having a length;
an elongate member for insertion into the channel, and having a length greater than the length of the channel; and
a distal assembly connected to a distal portion of the elongate member and operable to perform an endoscopic operation, wherein the distal assembly has an open configuration and a closed configuration, wherein a proximal end of the distal assembly has a profile larger than a diameter of the channel of the endoscope, and wherein the distal assembly is adapted to be exterior to the channel when the endoscope is inserted into the body.

wherein the distal assembly includes a tube and an end effector having a profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than a profile of a lumen of the tube so that at least a portion of the end effector fits within the lumen of the tube when in the closed configuration.

23. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the elongate member is operable to activate the distal assembly.

24. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the elongate member has a stop configured to limit movement of the elongate member.

25. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, further comprising a proximal handle connected to a proximal end of the elongate member and operable to activate the distal assembly.

26. (Original) The medical device of claim 25, further comprising an extension for connecting the proximal handle to the endoscope.

27. (Original) The medical device of claim 25, wherein the proximal handle includes a casing, a slide slidably disposed in the casing and housing a proximal portion of the elongate member, and a cap securing the proximal end of the elongate member.

28. (Original) The medical device of claim 27, wherein a distal end of the slide abuts the endoscope, a distal end of the endoscope abuts the distal assembly, and wherein the slide is operable to activate the distal assembly.

29. (Original) The medical device of claim 28, wherein the slide has a knob slidably disposed in a groove of the casing, and wherein the knob is operable to move the slide to activate the distal assembly.

30. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, further comprising an attachment cup configured to secure the distal assembly to a distal end of the endoscope.

31. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the endoscope has a sidearm.

32. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein an activation shaft is operable to rotate the distal assembly.

33. (Original) The medical device of claim 32, wherein a distal end of the activation shaft is bent.

34. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the distal assembly is operable to obtain and store multiple tissue samples.

35. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the distal assembly further comprises a needle on the distal end of the elongate member and a hub on a proximal end of the elongate member, and wherein the hub and needle are operable to administer an injection.

36. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the distal end of the elongate member includes a needle point.

37. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the elongate member includes a lumen, and further comprising a medical instrument inserted into the lumen.

38. (Original) The medical device of claim 22, wherein the distal assembly includes a forceps device.

39. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 38, the forceps device comprising a ring connected to the distal portion of the elongate member; ~~a tube housing the ring and the distal portion of the elongate member;~~ and jaw members attached to the ring that are operable to open and close, wherein the profile of the closed jaw members is smaller than a diameter of the tube, wherein the tube houses the ring and the distal portion of the elongate member.

40-60. (Cancelled).

61. (Currently Amended) An endoscopic device configured to be loaded into a channel of an endoscope prior to insertion of the endoscope into a body, comprising: an elongate member for insertion into the channel of the endoscope, wherein a length of the elongate member is greater than a length of the channel of the endoscope; and a distal assembly connected to a distal portion of the elongate member and operable to perform an endoscopic operation, wherein the distal assembly has an open configuration and a closed configuration with a profile larger than a diameter of the channel of the endoscope, and wherein the distal assembly is adapted to be exterior to the channel when the endoscope is inserted into the body, wherein the endoscope includes an optic channel for viewing an operative site from a proximal end of the endoscope, the optic channel being stationary relative to the channel,

wherein the distal assembly includes a tube and an end effector having a profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than a profile of a lumen of the tube so that at least a portion of the end effector fits within the lumen of the tube when in the closed configuration.

62. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the elongate member is operable to activate the distal assembly.

63. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the elongate member has a stop configured to limit movement of the elongate member.

64. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, further comprising a proximal handle connected to a proximal end of the elongate member, wherein the proximal handle is operable to activate the distal assembly.

65. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 64, wherein the proximal handle includes a casing, a slide slidably disposed in the casing and housing a proximal portion of the elongate member, and a cap connected to the proximal end of the elongate member.

66. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 65, wherein the slide has a knob slidably disposed in a groove of the casing, and wherein the knob is operable to move the slide to activate the distal assembly.

67. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, further comprising an attachment cup configured to secure the distal assembly to a distal end of the endoscope.

68. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein an activation shaft is operable to rotate the distal assembly.

69. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 68, wherein a distal end of the activation shaft is bent.

70. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the distal assembly is configured to obtain and store multiple tissue samples.

71. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the distal assembly further comprises a needle on the distal end of the elongate member and a hub on a proximal end of the elongate member, and wherein the hub and needle are operable to administer an injection.

72. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the distal end of the elongate member includes a needle point.

73. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the elongate member includes a lumen, and further comprising a medical device inserted into the lumen.

74. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the end effector includes jaw members operable to open and close.

75. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 74, wherein the jaw members are attached to a ring and the ring is attached to the elongate member.

76. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 74, wherein the jaw members are normally open.

77. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, further comprising activation means for activating the distal assembly.

78. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the distal assembly includes a forceps device.

79. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the distal assembly further includes a ring connected to the distal portion of the elongate member; wherein the tube houses the ring and the distal portion of the elongate member; and

wherein the end effector includes jaw members attached to the ring that are operable to open and close, wherein the profile of the closed jaw members is smaller than a diameter of the tube.

80. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 79, further comprising a spring housed within the tube.

81. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 80, wherein the spring exerts a force to open the jaw members.

82. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the tube is configured to place the distal assembly in the closed configuration when a proximal end of the tube abuts against a distal end of the endoscope.

83. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, further comprising a spring housed within the tube.

84. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 83, wherein the spring is configured to place the distal assembly in the open configuration.

85. (Previously Presented) The endoscopic device of claim 61, wherein the tube is configured to exert a radially inward force on the end effector so as to place the distal assembly in the closed configuration.

86. (Currently Amended) A medical device, comprising:
an endoscope with a channel having a length;
an elongate member for insertion into the channel, and having a length greater than the length of the channel; and
a distal assembly connected to a distal portion of the elongate member and operable to perform an endoscopic operation, wherein the distal assembly has an open configuration and a closed configuration with a profile larger than a diameter of the channel of the endoscope, and wherein the distal assembly is adapted to be exterior to the channel when the endoscope is inserted into the body,

wherein the endoscope includes an optic channel for viewing an operative site from a proximal end of the endoscope, the optic channel being stationary relative to the channel,

wherein the distal assembly includes a tube and an end effector having a profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than a profile of a lumen of the tube so that at least a portion of the end effector fits within the lumen of the tube when in the closed configuration.

87. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the elongate member is operable to activate the distal assembly.

88. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the elongate member has a stop configured to limit movement of the elongate member.

89. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, further comprising a proximal handle connected to a proximal end of the elongate member and operable to activate the distal assembly.

90. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 89, further comprising an extension for connecting the proximal handle to the endoscope.

91. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 89, wherein the proximal handle includes a casing, a slide slidably disposed in the casing and housing a proximal portion of the elongate member, and a cap securing the proximal end of the elongate member.

92. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 91, wherein a distal end of the slide abuts the endoscope, a distal end of the endoscope abuts the distal assembly, and wherein the slide is operable to activate the distal assembly.

93. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 92, wherein the slide has a knob slidably disposed in a groove of the casing, and wherein the knob is operable to move the slide to activate the distal assembly.

94. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, further comprising an attachment cup configured to secure the distal assembly to a distal end of the endoscope.

95. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the endoscope has a sidearm.

96. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein an activation shaft is operable to rotate the distal assembly.

97. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 96, wherein a distal end of the activation shaft is bent.

98. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the distal assembly is operable to obtain and store multiple tissue samples.

99. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the distal assembly further comprises a needle on the distal end of the elongate member and a hub on a proximal end of the elongate member, and wherein the hub and needle are operable to administer an injection.

100. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the distal end of the elongate member includes a needle point.

101. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the elongate member includes a lumen, and further comprising a medical instrument inserted into the lumen.

102. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the distal assembly includes a forceps device.

103. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the distal assembly further includes a ring connected to the distal portion of the elongate member; wherein the tube houses the ring and the distal portion of the elongate member; and

wherein the end effector includes jaw members attached to the ring that are operable to open and close, wherein the profile of the closed jaw members is smaller than a diameter of the tube.

104. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the tube is configured to place the distal assembly in the closed configuration when a proximal end of the tube abuts against a distal end of the endoscope.

105. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, further comprising a spring housed within the tube.

106. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 105, wherein the spring is configured to place the distal assembly in the open configuration.

107. (Previously Presented) The medical device of claim 86, wherein the tube is configured to exert a radially inward force on the end effector so as to place the distal assembly in the closed configuration.

108. (Cancelled).

109. (Currently Amended) The endoscopic device of claim 61 [[108]], wherein the end effector has a maximum outer profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than [[a]] the profile of [[a]] the lumen of the tube.

110-111. (Cancelled).

112. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 86 [[111]], wherein the end effector has a maximum outer profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than [[a]] the profile of [[a]] the lumen of the tube.

113-114. (Cancelled).

115. (Currently Amended) The endoscopic device of claim 1 [[114]], wherein the end effector has a maximum outer profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than [[a]] the profile of [[a]] the lumen of the tube.

116-117. (Cancelled).

118. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 22 [[117]], wherein the end effector has a maximum outer profile in the closed configuration that is smaller than [[a]] the profile of [[a]] the lumen of the tube.

119. (Cancelled).